

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A wet hand towel supply apparatus comprising:

a housing having a stock container for accommodating a stock of a long sheet of hand towel material and an ejection port for ejecting a piece of hand towel fabricated from said hand towel material;

a transfer means housed in said housing and activated by a driving source to transfer the hand towel material from said stock container to said ejection port;

a cutting means for cutting the hand towel material during while being transferred into pieces of hand towel material, each having a size defining one piece of hand towel;

a moistening means for causing the hand towel material during while being transferred or the hand towel after having been cut into a piece pieces to contain moisture; and

a winding-up means for winding up the hand towel after having been moistened into a roll, in which

said winding-up means comprises:

a belt conveyor including a conveyor belt bridging across between a winding roller used for winding up the hand towel and a driven roller; and

a hand towel fabricating guide member, which extends along an outer side of said conveyor belt over a region thereof extending from a front belt portion via a winding portion winding around the winding roller to a back belt portion for defining a hand towel fabricating passage between said guide member and said conveyor belt, wherein

a winding-up initiating protrusion is formed on a surface of said hand towel guide member facing to said hand towel fabricating passage exclusively in a portion thereof facing to an end portion of said front belt portion in said winding roller side so that a leading edge of the hand towel material which has been introduced into said hand towel passage comes in contact with said protrusion thereby initiating a winding-up of said leading edge into a roll.

2. (original) A wet hand towel supply apparatus in accordance with claim 1, in which a portion of said hand towel fabricating guide member facing to said winding portion of the conveyer belt winding around the winding roller is a stationary belt made of elastic material.

3. (original) A wet hand towel supply apparatus in accordance with claim 1, in which a portion of said hand towel fabricating

guide member facing to said winding portion of the conveyer belt winding around the winding roller is made up of a moving cover plate for winding the hand towel, which is capable of moving in the longitudinal direction of said belt conveyor, and

 said hand towel fabricating guide member is provided with a spring member that always biases said moving cover plate toward the winding roller.

4. (original) A wet hand towel supply apparatus in accordance with claim 1, in which said winding-up initiating protrusion is composed of a plurality of rows of protrusions arranged in the transferring direction of the hand towel material, said rows of protrusions getting higher toward the downstream.

5. (original) A wet hand towel supply apparatus in accordance with claim 2, in which said winding-up initiating protrusion is composed of a plurality of rows of protrusions arranged in the transferring direction of the hand towel material, said rows of protrusions getting higher toward the downstream.

6. (original) A wet hand towel supply apparatus in accordance with claim 3, in which said winding-up initiating protrusion is

PATENT APPLN. NO. 10/684,586
RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

PATENT
NON-FINAL

composed of a plurality of rows of protrusions arranged in the transferring direction of the hand towel material, said rows of protrusions getting higher toward the downstream.